10¢ THRILLING TALES OF HORROR & SUSPENSE LH 10¢

DARK MYSTERIES

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DEC. No. 15

WEIRD TALES OF HORROR!

TERROR OF THE VAMPIRE'S TEETH

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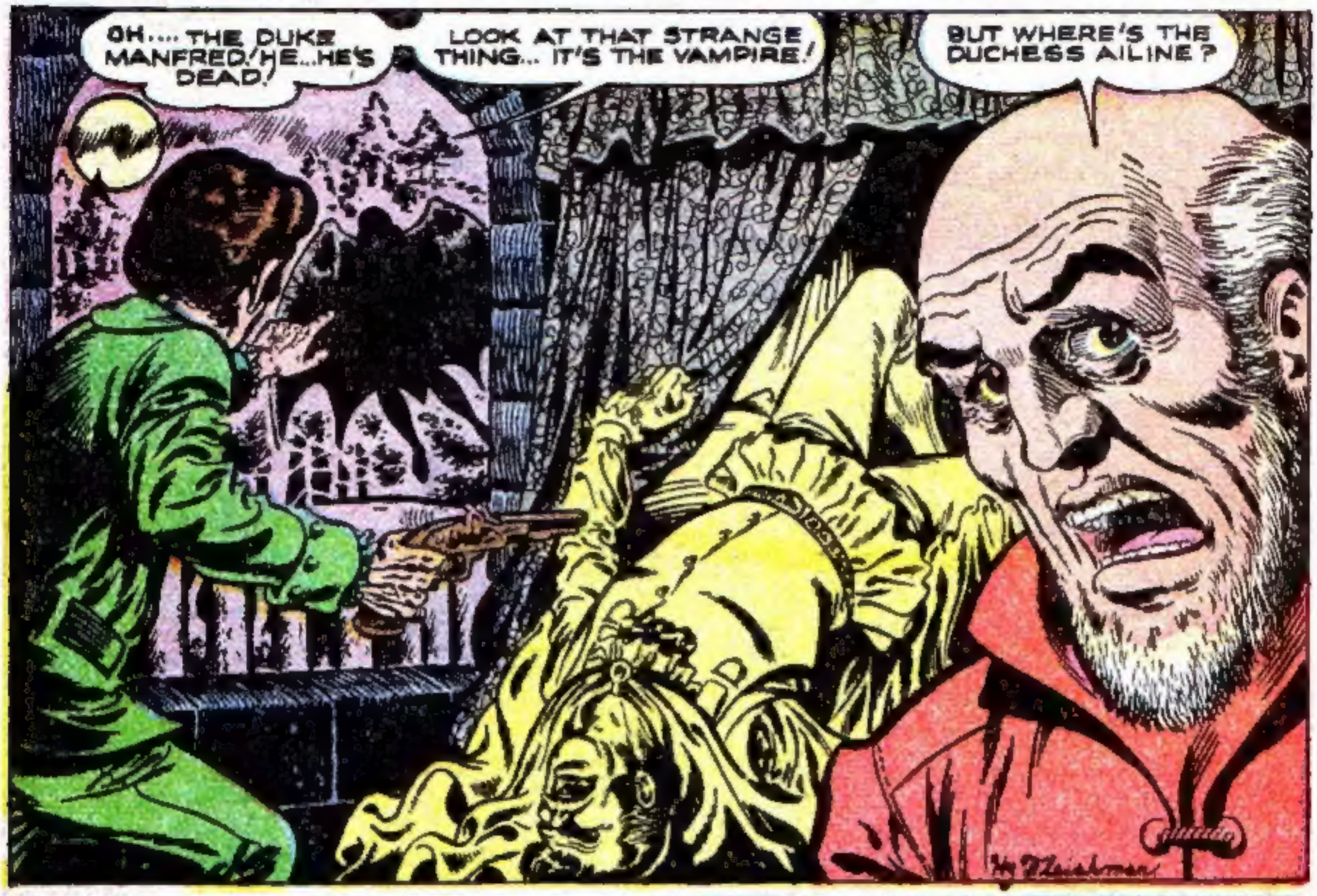
YOU WERE A CRUEL MAN, AND YOU WERE PROUD! YOUR PEOPLE WERE UP IN ARMS! THEY DEMANDED YOU FIND AND KILL THE VAMPIRE, THE SCOURGE YOU HAD FOUGHT WITH EVERY WEAPON! AS DUKE OF THE REALM, YOU TRIED TO TRACK DOWN THE OBSCENE, BLOOD-SUCKING CREATURE! YOU FEARED THE WRATH OF YOUR SUPERSTITIOUS PEOPLE... AND JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT HAD BEEN CONQUERED, YOU MEET... THE VAMPIRE... FACE TO FACE! YOU FEEL IT'S SHARP FANGS SINK IN YOUR SOFT THROAT, AND THE WARM BLOOD GURGLE DOWN THE THROAT OF THE HUNGRY MONSTER! BUT LITTLE DID YOU DREAM THAT YOU YOURSELF HAD CREATED IT... CREATED...

The Vampire with the Iron teeth



THE YEAR 1790 WAS FILLED WITH TERROR AND DEATH! YOU HAVE THE HEAVY TASK, AS DUKE OF DARLY, TO QUIET THE FEARS OF THE FRIGHTENED PEOPLE AND TO ROUT OUT THE SOURCE OF EVIL... A VAMPIRE!

YOU CALL ON YOUR TOP ADVISERS, MINISTERS OF STATE!

THE TOWN SURGEON AND SORCERER HAS A REPUTATION FOR DOING MANY THINGS REMARKABLY WELL! YOU HAVE SUMMONED HIM TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM...

I AM AT YOUR SERVICE, YOUR LORDSHIP!

YOU'RE A WISE MAN, HORTON. FIND THE VAMPIRE... WHAT'S THAT? THE DUCHESS! SHE'S SCREAMING...

EEAAAAAHHH

THOSE SCREAMS AGAIN, OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL WIFE, AILINE...THEY FILL YOU WITH TERROR!

COME WITH ME, HORTON! PERHAPS YOU CAN HELP THE DUCHESS! FOR A WEEK SHE'S BEEN HAVING STRANGE ATTACKS!

I'M COMING, YOUR LORDSHIP!

AS YOU SEE YOUR SWEET AILINE PACING THE FLOOR IN AGONY, HER FACE WHITE, A HORRIBLE FEAR FILLS YOUR BREAST! COULD IT BE... SHE'S BEEN ATTACKED BY THE VAMPIRE?

OH...MANFRED... MY FACE, MY FACE...

DARLING...HORTON HERE WILL EXAMINE YOU!

BUT...BUT... HE'S A SORCERER! HOW CAN HE HELP ME?

HE'S ALSO A SURGEON, MY DEAR!

IF YOU WILL LIE ON THE BED, YOUR LADYSHIP, PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU! WILL YOUR LORDSHIP PLEASE LEAVE US ALONE...

YOU HESITATE TO LEAVE AILINE ALONE WITH HORTON, BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO! SHE MUST BE RELIEVED OF HER AGONIES!

I'LL BE CLOSE BY, DEAR! HORTON, TAKE CARE!

HAVE NO FEAR, SIR!

OUTSIDE THE DOOR, YOU WAIT, WONDERING WHAT HORTON IS DOING TO AILINE... YOUR FEVERED IMAGINATION PICTURES A GRUESOME SCENE BEHIND THE CLOSED DOOR!

I'M BEING SILLY... HORTON'S A PERFECTLY DECENT FELLOW...

BUT YOU CAN STAND THE SUSPENSE NO LONGER AND YOU BREAK INTO THE ROOM!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY WIFE?

DARLING, HE'S HELPED ME! I FEEL BETTER!

YOUR LORDSHIP, IT'S MILADY'S TEETH... THEY MUST ALL COME OUT! I GAVE HER SOMETHING TO QUIET THE PAIN TEMPORARILY!

YOUR FEARS OF THE VAMPIRE HARMING ALINE ARE QUIETED, YOU FEEL GRATEFUL TO HORTON!

BUT WHAT WILL SHE DO.. WITH NO TEETH? WHAT ABOUT HER GREAT BEAUTY?

I COULDN'T BEAR THE SHAME!

IN THOSE DAYS, FALSE TEETH WERE MADE OF CLACKING WOOD!

DO NOT WORRY! I AM ALSO A DENTIST... AND I WILL MAKE TEETH OF IRON INSTEAD OF WOOD! THEY WILL NOT CLACK!

THE DAY HAS COME WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR DUCHESS TO HORTON'S SHOP FOR THE NEW TEETH!

OH, MANFRED, I'M SO NERVOUS!

HORTON SAYS THE NEW TEETH WILL BE BEAUTIFUL! WE SHALL SEE!

THESE ARE YOUR IRON TEETH, MADAME! NOW I SHALL EXTRACT YOURS!

LOOK HOW THEY SHINE!

YOU ARE NOW VERY PROUD OF THE SENSATIONAL FALSE TEETH IN AILINE'S MOUTH! PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER FLOCK TO SEE THEM!

WELCOME, SIR GEORGE!

GREETINGS! WOULD IT BE PRESUMPTUOUS TO ASK TO SEE THE MARVELOUS NEW TEETH OF THE BEAUTIFUL DUCHESS?

NOT AT ALL, SIR GEORGE!

JUST THEN THE FUROR ABOUT THE VAMPIRE GREW AGAIN! THE DUKE'S GUARD TRACED IT TO THE VILLAGE OF HATLO!

THE VAMPIRE IS FROM HATLO! I BETTER TELL THE DUKE, IMMEDIATELY!

WHEN THE DUKE RECEIVED THE NEWS, HE GAVE IMMEDIATE ORDERS...

WIPE OUT ALL OF HATLO/ THEN THE VAMPIRE WILL DIE/

THAT NIGHT, ALL OF THE INHABITANTS OF HATLO WERE PUT TO DEATH/

WE WILL BE AVENGED... AAAHHH...

BANG BANG

WE ARE INNOCENT!

AT LAST THE VAMPIRE IS DEAD, BUT...WHAT IS HAPPENING OVER THERE, BOY?

YOUR LORDSHIP, THE AMERICAN MINISTER'S WIFE HAS A REMARK-ABLE SET OF FALSE TEETH/EVERYONE'S ADMIRING THEM/

CURIOSITY IMPELLS YOU AND AILINE TO SAUNTER OVER TO THE AMERICAN MINISTER AND HIS WIFE/

YES, SIR, THESE ARE FALSE TEETH/

BUT THEY LOOK SO REAL/

THEY ARE MADE OF IVORY/

SUDDENLY YOUR WIFES IRON TEETH HAVE BECOME A MONSTROSITY/

EVERY ONE WAS WHISPERING... LAUGHING AT MY SHINY TEETH/ OH, MANFRED/

DON'T WORRY, I'LL DO SOME-THING ABOUT THIS/

THE VERY NEXT MORNING YOU PAY AN EARLY CALL ON HORTON/

BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN FALSE TEETH MADE OF IVORY/ I WOULDN'T KNOW WHERE TO GET IT/

HORTON, IF YOU VALUE YOUR PLACE AS TOWN SURGEON, YOU'LL MAKE MY WIFE AN IVORY SET OF TEETH/ GOOD-DAY/

WHAT SHALL I DO, GRACE? WHERE WILL I GET IVORY?

I HAVE AN IDEA, HORTON/

GRACE'S IDEA WAS SIMPLE. BABETTE, WHO HAD BEEN EXECUTED, WAS CLOSE TO AILINE IN AGE ....TAKE HER TEETH...WHY NOT ?

I'LL BRING HER BACK WHEN I'VE EXTRACTED HER TEETH!

HER BEAUTIFUL TEETH ARE PERFECT! THE DUKE WILL BE PLEASED!

BABETTE

STILL DISTURBED OVER THE PROBLEM OF AILINE'S TEETH...AN IRON MONSTROSITY NOW THAT THERE IS SUCH A THING AS IVORY ONES...YOU CANNOT SLEEP! YOU ARE DETERMINED TO MAKE HORTON SUFFER IF HE DOESN'T FILL YOUR ORDER!

WHAT IS IT, CYRIL?

AS THOUGH HE HAS READ YOUR MIND, HORTON APPEARS IN YOUR STUDY!

FORGIVE THIS INTRUSION, YOUR GRACE...BUT I KNEW YOU WERE ANXIOUS! SEE, HERE IS A SET OF IVORY TEETH!

HORTON, YOU'RE AMAZING! THEY'RE MARVELOUS!

IN HORTON'S SHOP, THE NEXT MORNING, YOU WATCH WITH SATISFACTION AS HE SETS THE NEW TEETH FOR AILINE!

THAT'S VERY GOOD, HORTON!

AS YOU BOTH RIDE HOME, YOU ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE NATURALNESS OF THE NEW TEETH!

ARE YOU HAPPY, AILINE?

OH... MOST CERTAINLY... MY BELOVED!

WEARY FROM THE STRAIN, YOU RETIRE EARLY! AILINE SEEMS ODDLY WAKEFUL, EXHILARATED..

IS IT YOUR NEW TEETH, DARLING, THAT HAS EXCITED YOU?

OH... YES... MANFRED!

YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN YOUR GENTLE AILINE ACT SO STRANGELY! AS SHE MOVES CLOSE, BENDING OVER YOU, HER EYES GLISTEN... AND HER TEETH SEEM MORE POINTED THAN BEFORE!

SUDDENLY YOU FEEL ENVELOPED BY THE WIDE SLEEVES ON AILINES GOWN... AND A SHARP PRICK STINGS YOUR NECK!

WHY DO YOU LOOK AFRAID OF ME, MANFRED?

AILINE! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? *HELP!* *ARRRRGHH!*

THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE DUKE!

LET'S HURRY!

SCREEAM

HELP ARRRGH

IT'S THE DUKE... HE'S DEAD!

WHERE'S THE DUCHESS?

LOOK... AT HIS NECK... THE VAMPIRE GOT HIM!

IT'S A VAMPIRE...

WHY... IT LOOKS LIKE THE DUCHESS!

WE MUST GO TO THE CEMETERY AT HATLO IMMEDIATELY!

AN OPEN GRAVE... SHE MUST HAVE BEEN THE REAL HATLO VAMPIRE... BUT HER TEETH WERE *STOLEN!*

BUT.. I PUT HER TEETH IN THE DUCHESS' MOUTH! NOW THERE IS A NEW VAMPIRE LOOSE... WILL I BE THE NEXT VICTIM?

HATLO

THE END

HORROR OF THE CANNIBALS' DINNER

I MUST BE HAVING A NIGHTMARE! YOU'RE NOT MY BEAUTIFUL RISA... YOU... YOU'RE THE OLD WITCH! HELP! THOSE HANDS! HELP!

WHEN THE BRUTAL, SADISTIC, YOUNG KURT PALMER RAIDED AND BURNED THE PRIMITIVE KENYA VILLAGE OF CANNIBALS AND KIDNAPPED THE NATIVES TO BE SLAVES ON HIS PLANTATION, HIS BRUTALITY GAVE HIM UNCANNY STRENGTH, BUT THEN, HE BECAME STRANGELY, FEVERISHLY ENAMOURED OF THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG PRINCESS CHARNA...AND LATER OF THE ALLURING, MAGNETIC RISA! HIS LOVE FOR THESE DARK BEAUTIES LED TO HIS HORRIBLE DEATH AND...

THE REVENGE OF THE CANNIBALS!

THE WEIRD CHANTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVES ROSE ABOVE THE CRACKLING OF THE FAGGOTS AS THE FIRE WAS LIGHTED TO BURN THE OLD WOMAN, LISAN, AT THE STAKE!

AAAAH!

SAAAHH!

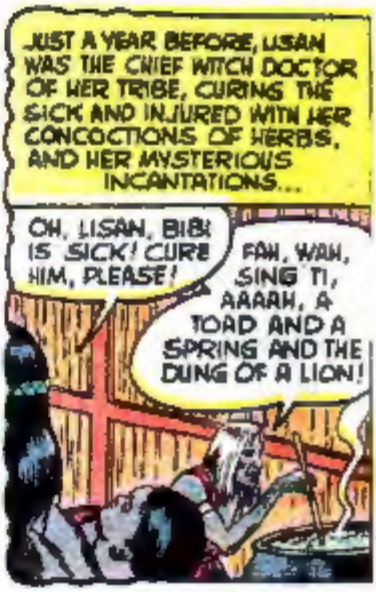
GAANG!

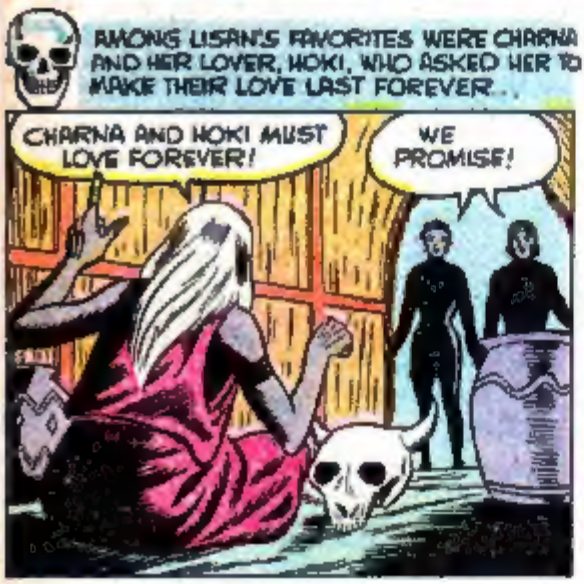
SLOW TO START, THE FLAMES SUDDENLY ROSE HIGHER AND THE FETID STENCH OF BURNING FLESH STUNG THE NOSTRILS...

LISAN! WHY DID YOU ASK FOR DEATH ?!

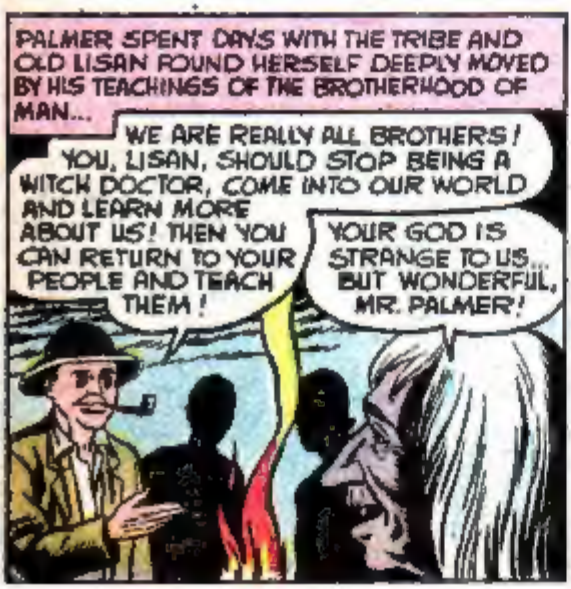
THEN OLD LISAN LIFTED HER HEAD AND A JOYOUS SMILE WAS ON HER CRACKED LIPS! THEN THE SAVAGE SINGING BECAME LOUDER, THE DANCING WILDER...
LISAN'S SMILING! SHE'S HAPPY!

WHY THIS TRIBAL ACT OF BURNING A HARMLESS OLD WOMAN? EVEN SAVAGES, BARBARIANS, HAVE THEIR CODES... AND LISAN, THE WITHERED OLD WITCH DOCTOR ASKED FOR THIS HORRIBLE DEATH... BUT WHY... WHY...?
TUM! TUM! TUM!


JUST A YEAR BEFORE, LISAN WAS THE CHIEF WITCH DOCTOR OF HER TRIBE, CURING THE SICK AND INJURED WITH HER CONCOCTIONS OF HERBS, AND HER MYSTERIOUS INCANTATIONS...
OH, LISAN, BIBI IS SICK! CURE HIM, PLEASE!
FAH, WAH, SING TI, AAAAH, A TOAD AND A SPRING AND THE DUNG OF A LION!


AMONG LISAN'S FAVORITES WERE CHARNA AND HER LOVER, NOKI, WHO ASKED HER TO MAKE THEIR LOVE LAST FOREVER...
CHARNA AND NOKI MUST LOVE FOREVER!
WE PROMISE!

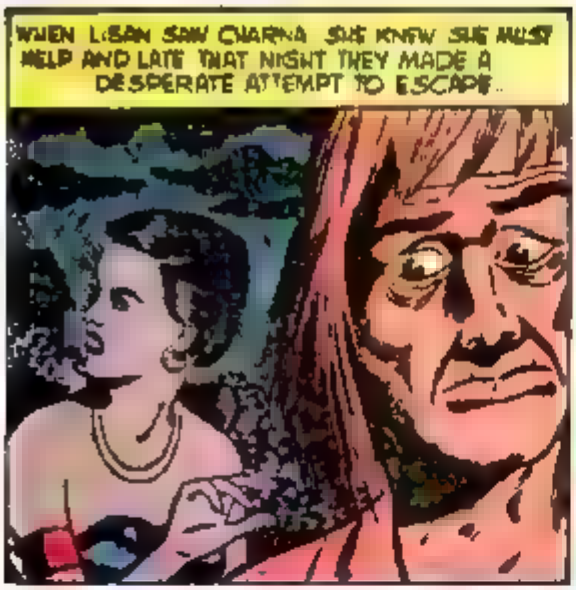
TO THEIR PEACEFUL VILLAGE CAME ONE DAY THE MISSIONARIES...
PEACE BE WITH YOU. TAKE ME TO YOUR CHIEF! I AM MR. PALMER, SENT HERE BY THE WHITE FATHER ACROSS THE WATERS!

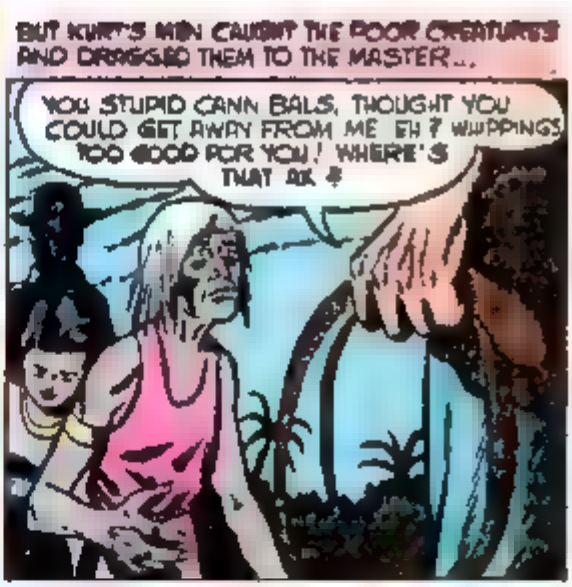

PALMER SPENT DAYS WITH THE TRIBE AND OLD LISAN FOUND HERSELF DEEPLY MOVED BY HIS TEACHINGS OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN...
WE ARE REALLY ALL BROTHERS! YOU, LISAN, SHOULD STOP BEING A WITCH DOCTOR, COME INTO OUR WORLD AND LEARN MORE ABOUT US! THEN YOU CAN RETURN TO YOUR PEOPLE AND TEACH THEM!
YOUR GOD IS STRANGE TO US... BUT WONDERFUL, MR. PALMER!

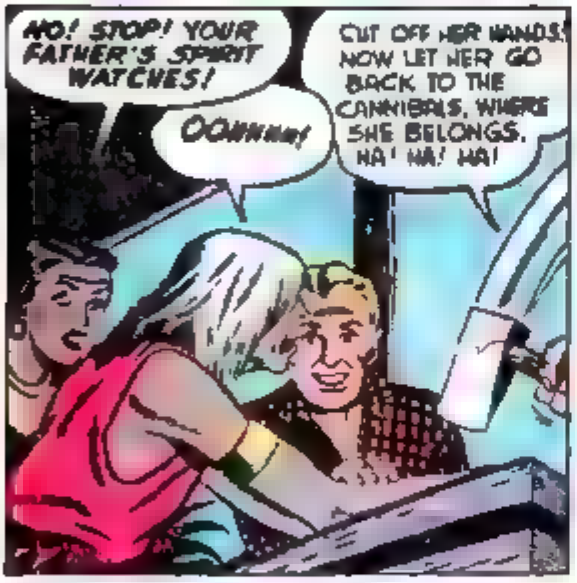
LISAN KNEW HER DECISION TO LEAVE WITH MR. PALMER WAS DANGEROUS, BUT SOME GREAT FORCE IMPELLED HER ON! SHE KNEW THE CHIEF WAS ANGRY WITH HER...
CHIEF MAULI, I PROMISE TO COME BACK AND BRING NEW WAYS OF HEALING TO MY PEOPLE!
YOU MAY GO, LISAN! BUT NEVER FORGET YOUR TRIBE!

AT MR PALMER'S SMALL RUBBER PLANTATION, LISAN WAS INTRODUCED TO THE NATIVE OVERSEER, KAFTA! SHE WAS SURPRISED AT THE POSITION OF IMPORTANCE A NATIVE COULD ATTAIN...
BE VERY NICE TO LISAN, KAFTA! SHE'S A FINE OLD WOMAN!
WELCOME, LISAN! IT IS GOOD TO WORK FOR MR PALMER!
KAFTA WAS RIGHT! LISAN SAW HAPPINESS AMONG HER PEOPLE AND SHE WAS LEARNING SOME REMARKABLE THINGS OF THE NEW CIVILIZATION...
WHAT STORIES I SHALL TELL MY PEOPLE WHEN I GO BACK!
AND THEN, TRAGEDY STRUCK
QUICK! MR PALMER HAD A HEART ATTACK! WHERE IS HIS ROOM?
UP THOSE STAIRS! BE GENTLE! OH, POOR MR PALMER!
THREE DAYS LATER YOUNG PALMER ARRIVED AT HIS FATHER'S BEDSIDE! FEAR CLUTCHED AT THE OLD WITCH DOCTOR'S HEART AS SHE WATCHED THIS HAUGHTY MAN
YOU'LL BE WELL SOON, DAD! WHY MUST THAT CANNIBAL HANG AROUND? I SHALL DISMISS HER!
NO. NO KURT, I'M FOND OF HER! SHE'S A GOOD WOMAN!
WHEN MR PALMER DIED THAT NIGHT, A TERRIBLE PALL HUNG OVER THE PLANTATION! WHEN HIS BIER PASSED, THE WORKERS WEPT BROKEN-HEARTED.
OH, HOW MR KURT GLOATS OVER THE PLANTATION NOW HIS!
LATE THAT AFTERNOON, MR KURT SUMMONED THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE NATIVE WORKERS! A HEAVY SILENCE FELL AS HIS OMINOUS WORDS PENETRATED THEIR UNDERSTANDING
YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT I AM THE NEW MASTER OF THIS PLANTATION! I SHALL EXPECT ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE!
MASTER, OBEDIENCE THOSE WORDS WERE NEVER USED BY MR PALMER!

THE NEW MASTER WAS BRUTAL AND HARSH! HE REIGNED LIKE A LORD OVER THE SMALL PLANTATION
YOU CAN'T FAKE SUNSTROKE ON TH S PLACE! YOU'RE JUST A LAZY GOOD-FOR NOTH NG!
KURT PALMER WANTED MORE LABORERS AND PAID A BAND OF HOODLUMS TO RAID LISON'S VILLAGE
THIS'LL BURN 'EM OUT! WE'LL CATCH 'EM AS THEY COME OUT!
THEIR VILLAGE BURNED, THE FRIGHTENED NATIVES WERE CAUGHT AND CHAINED TO BE TURNED INTO SLAVES FOR HIM.
EEEAH!
WE'VE GOT A GOOD CATCH FOR MR KURT!
OOOOH!
THE CHIEFTAN'S DAUGHTER, PRINCESS CHARNA, WAS THE PRIZE CATCH OF THE RAID..
MR KURT SHOULD PAY PLENTY FOR THIS ONE!
THE COLD STEELY EYES OF THE MASTER GLISTENED EVILLY AS THEY LOOKED ON THE DARK BEAUTY OF CHARNA
CHARNA WILL WORK FOR ME HERE, IN THE HOUSE! TAKE THE OTHERS TO THE TENTS!
MR PALMER YOUR FATHER USED TO PREACH KINDNESS AND BROTHERHOOD! YOU MUST SEND ME BACK TO MY BETROTHED!
YOU'VE PLENTY OF SPIRIT CHARNA, AND YOU RE EXQUISITE!
THOUGH HE HADE HER PEOPLE SLAVES, KURT'S DESIRE FOR THE LOVELY CHARNA WAS MORE THAN HE COULD RESIST.
YOU SHALL STAY WITH ME...
UGH..

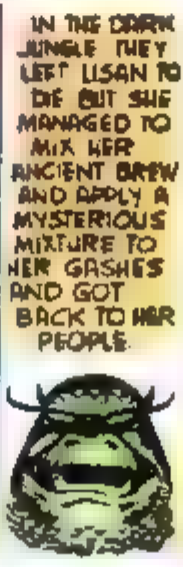

WHEN LISAN SAW CHARNA SHE KNEW SHE MUST HELP AND LATE THAT NIGHT THEY MADE A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE..


BUT KURT'S MEN CAUGHT THE POOR CREATURES AND DRAGGED THEM TO THE MASTER...
YOU STUPID CANN BALS, THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY FROM ME EH? WHIPPINGS TOO GOOD FOR YOU! WHERE'S THAT AX?


NO! STOP! YOUR FATHER'S SPIRIT WATCHES!
OOHHHH!
CUT OFF HER HANDS! NOW LET HER GO BACK TO THE CANNIBALS, WHERE SHE BELONGS. HA! HA! HA!

YOU HAVE AN EVIL SPIRIT! YOU SHALL PAY...
JOE, HARRY! FLOG THIS SAVAGE!

BRUTALITY WAS THE VERY LIFE-BLOOD OF THIS STRANGE YOUNG MAN... THE MISFIT OFFSPRING OF A SAINTLY FATHER
SEE THAT YOU FINISH THEM BOYS! IF I CAN'T HAVE HER, IT'S JUST AS WELL!
AND SO, CHARNA, WHOM LISAN LOVED DIED.


IN THE DARK JUNGLE THEY LEFT LISAN TO DIE BUT SHE MANAGED TO MIX HER ANCIENT BREW AND APPLY A MYSTERIOUS MIXTURE TO HER GASHES AND GOT BACK TO HER PEOPLE

NO, MR. KURT, I SHALL NOT DIE YET! YOU FORGOT I AM A WITCH-DOCTOR!

SOMEHOW LISAN MADE IT TO [illegible] VILLAGE
TRUST ME, I MUST BE BURNED AT THE STAKE TONIGHT! BUT FIRST, SMEAR THAT MIXTURE ALL OVER MY BODY! YOU MUST DO AS I SAY!
NO! IT IS TOO HORRIBLE!
IF YOU DO AS I SAY, I SHALL BRING BACK KURT PALMER! I KNOW HIS WEAKNESS!
THEN WE WILL DO IT!
TIE THE CORDS TIGHT! I MUST NOT CHANGE MY MIND IN A WEAK MOMENT!
WE DO WHAT YOU [illegible], LISAN!
AND THAT IS WHY THE OLD WITCH DOCTOR WAS BURNED AT THE STAKE, AT HER OWN ORDERS! NO ONE QUESTIONED WHY? BUT THEY SOON FOUND OUT.
THE FLAMES SWEPT HIGHER AND HIGHER, AND LATER, WHEN THE FIRE BURNED OUT ONLY ASHES OF THE OLD WOMAN WAS LEFT.
ABOUT TWO WEEKS LATER, MR. KURT PALMER WAS STANDING IN HIS GARDEN WHEN A DARK GIRL OF EQUISITE LOVLINESS WALKED TOWARD HIM.
WHY WHO ARE YOU? I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN!
I AM RISA! I COME TO WORK ON YOUR PLANTATION!
IN ALL HIS SELF INDULGENT DAYS KURT HAD NEVER SEEN ANYONE LIKE RISA! A FIRE SEEMED TO CONSUME HIM AS SHE TALKED, WALKED, GAZED AT HIM FROM DEEP POOLS OF EYES...
SHE MUST BE MINE!
YES, I SHALL FIND A PLACE FOR YOU!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, KURT, THE MASTER OF ALL BECAME THE SLAVE OF SOMEONE ELSE RISA SO DEEP WAS HIS INFATUATION, THAT HE PLIED HER WITH GIFTS JUST FOR HER SMILE

KURT, I AM GOING BACK TO MY VILLAGE FOR A VISIT! COME WITH ME PART OF THE WAY

IF YOU MUST I'LL GO WITH YOU!

THOUGH KURT KNEW THE RISK OF GOING NEAR THE COUNTRY WHERE HE HAD RAIDED VILLAGES, HE COULD NOT BEAR PARTING WITH RISA AND WENT ALONG PART OF THE WAY

I CAN GO NO FURTHER PROMISE ME, RISA THAT YOU'LL COME BACK

YES, I PROMISE! NOW KISS ME

AS KURT EMBRACED RISA, A HORRIBLE CHANGE CAME OVER HER FIRST HER FACE

YOUR FACE! UG! I MUST BE HAVING A NIGHTMARE!

IT'S NOT A NIGHTMARE, KURT!

BY NOW RISA'S WHOLE FORM WITHERED INTO THAT OF THE OLD WOMAN AND KURT SHUDDERED AT THE SIGHT OF STUMPS WHERE HANDS SHOULD BE

YOU HAVE NO HANDS! OH NO! YOU'RE LISAN! BUT SHE'S DEAD!

YES, KURT! I AM LISAN

THEN AS KURT WAS ABOUT TO ESCAPE LONG FINGERS CLOSED AROUND HIS THROAT...

THOSE HANDS! THEY HOLD ME! YAAAA!

THOSE DISSECTED HANDS HAD THE STRENGTH OF MANY MEN IN HIS LAST LONG LOUD MOMENT KURT SAW HORDES OF NATIVES SWARM OVER HIM SCREAMING BRAND SHING LONG SWORDS

SWISH

AND SO THE BRUTAL SADISTIC KURT PALMER CAME TO A JUGLES ME END AS THE DINNER OF A TRIBE OF CANNIBALS AND LISAN HAD MADE GOOD HER PROMISE TO BRING BACK KURT!

THE END

MEN LIKE YOU, PETE JUBEL, HAVE ALWAYS LUSTED FOR SUDDEN FORTUNE! FOR TWENTY YEARS YOU TOILED AND STRUGGLED FOR A MERE PITTANCE AND THEN YOU WERE FILLED WITH A DREAM OF TREASURE... A DREAM THAT CAME TRUE! BECAUSE OF YOU, YOUR SON AND DAUGHTER HAVE DIED FOR IT, BUT YOU HAD THE OLD PIRATE TREASURE IN YOUR GRASP..ONLY TO HAVE A PIRATE GHOST COME BACK FROM HIS GRAVE TO CLAIM IT... AND TO SEND YOU TO A ....

SLOW DEATH IN QUICKSAND

LOOK! YOU'RE SPILLING THE GOLD! YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL... JUST DON'T PULL ME DOWN INTO THE QUICKSAND!

THE TREASURE IS MINE, PETE JUBEL! I'VE COME BACK FOR IT... BUT YOU MUST DIE!

HA, HA, HA!

ALL YOUR LIFE YOU HAVE BEEN SEAFARIN' AND NOW YOU HAVE THE REPUTATION FOR BEIN' HARD-BITTEN, SALTY! YOU STRUGGLED WITH THE SEA THE HARD WAY, AND IT WAS TOUGH RAISIN' YOUR SON AND DAUGHTER! YOU WERE TIRED OF WORKING... BUT NOW, AN IDEA'S STRUCK YOU...

WE GOTTA GET OUT TO THE WRECK! COME ON, KIDS!

BUT IT'S JUST AN OLD PIRATE WRECK, POP!

DON'T GO, POP! IT'S HAUNTED!

THAT OLD LEGEND ABOUT GHOSTS AND TREASURE ON BOARD THE OLD "BLACK EAGLE"... WELL, MAYBE THERE *IS* TREASURE...

CAN'T BE ANY MATE ON BOARD THAT WRECK! HE'D BE OVER A HUNDRED!

AS YOU PULL ALONGSIDE THE OLD WRECK, YOU SEE...

OOOH...LOOK, POP! THE OLD MAN!

SO FAR, THE LEGEND'S RIGHT! THE FIRST MATE'S STILL ALIVE TO PROTECT THE TREASURE!

AS YOU CLIMB UP THE DECAYIN' SIDE OF THE BOAT, THE OLD MAN'S VOICE YELLS OUT IN A SHRILL, HIGH PITCH THAT MAKES YOUR BLOOD RUN COLD...

WHAT YOU WANT HERE, PETE JUBEL? YOU AND YOUR FAMBLY?

THE DANK, PUTRID STENCH HITS YOU IN THE STOMACH. BUT IF THERE'S TREASURE ON BOARD, NO MAN NOR GHOST CAN STOP YOU...

SO YOU'RE STILL ALIVE! HOW COME YOU KNOW OUR NAMES, CORBY?

I KNOW EVERTHIN', THE SEA TELLS ME ABOUT EVERYBODY. I KNOW YOU'RE HERE TO FIND THE TREASURE!

CORBY SEEMS CRACKED, BUT YOU PLAY IT SMART, HUMOR HIM, SO MAYBE YOU CAN FIND OUT SOMETHING THAT WILL LEAD YOU TO THE PIRATE TREASURE, IF ANY...

ALL RIGHT, JUBEL, I'LL TELL YOU THE STORY OF THIS OLD PIRATE SHIP, THE BLACK EAGLE! YOU SEEM FRIENDLY LIKE...

WILL YOU TELL US ABOUT THE TREASURE?

ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, WE WAS THE PROUDEST PIRATE SHIP TO SAIL THE SEAS...A TRIM FAST BOAT THIS WAS...

OUR CAPTAIN, LANCE PETTIGREW, WAS A POWERFUL MAN! EVEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONED HIM TO GO ON RAIDING PARTIES, FOR A CUT...

CLEAR THE DECKS FOR ACTION!

MANY A RAID WE CARRIED OFF UNDER CAPTAIN LANCE'S ORDERS...

QUIET, MEN! THIS RAID IS FOR TREASURE, NOT SLAVES!

WHAT A HAUL WE MADE WHEN WE RAIDED THE SPANISH COLONY, COLON! CHESTS OF GOLD AND JEWELS WERE BOARDED ON THE BLACK EAGLE AND WE MADE A QUICK GETAWAY...

THIS IS WORTH A KING'S RANSOM!

YOU LISTEN SPELL-BOUND TO OLD CORBY'S TALE OF PIRATE FREEBOOTING! HE MAY BE CRAZY AS A LOON, BUT THE STORY SOUNDS REAL...

BUT MY CLEVER CAPTAIN LANCE DECIDED TO KEEP THE TREASURE FOR OURSELVES, SO WE LEFT OUR COURSE AND STARTED FOR MEXICO!

...BUT IN FLORIDA, WHERE WE STOPPED FOR SUPPLIES, WE WERE AMBUSHED BY INJUNS! THEY GOT CAPTAIN LANCE, BUT I ESCAPED...

CORBY, GET BACK TO THE SHIP! KEEP THE TREASURE TILL I COME BACK FOR IT! I'LL BE BACK!

I'LL BE WAITING, CAPTAIN, EVEN IF IT'S FOREVER!

I SWAM WITH ALL MY STRENGTH AND CLIMBED ABOARD THE BLACK EAGLE...

...IT WAS ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS AGO THAT WE SAILED THE BLACK EAGLE INTO THIS BAY AND GOT STUCK IN THE SHALLOWS! ALL THE CREW HAVE DIED... BUT I! I'M WAITING FOR CAPTAIN LANCE! HE'LL BE BACK AND NOW I'M GUARDIN' THE TREASURE FER HIM

YOUR HEAR YOUR DAUGHTER, LAURIE, WHISPERING TO YOU, JUST WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...

LET'S GET RID OF THE OLD LOON, SO WE CAN LOOK FOR THE TREASURE!

THE GOLD IS HERE, ISN'T IT, OLD MAN?

YEP! BUT NOT FOR YOU!

WE WANT THAT TREASURE, CORBY!

NEVER! IT'S THE CAPTAIN'S... OHHHH!

THROW HIM TO THE SHARKS, POP!

YOU WONDER WHY THAT CRAZY OLD COOT SHOULD BE SCARED OF DYING! BUT YOUR MIND IS ON THE TREASURE... IT MUST BE ON BOARD...

NOW, LET'S SEARCH THE SHIP!

ARRRH...

ALL DAY, YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN HAVE SEARCHED BEHIND EVERY GALLEY AND CABIN...

WHAT... WHAT IF IT'S NOT HERE?

IT'S HERE, ALL RIGHT! I'M SURE OF IT!

DOWN THE STINKING, PITCH BLACK HOLD, YOU GO! DESPERATION FOR THE GOLD WILL NOT LET YOU GIVE UP...

HEY KIDS! UNDER THAT KEEL PLANK... I SEE A FALSE BOTTOM! BRING THE TORCH!

LET'S RIP UP THE PLANKS!

YOU RIP UP THE ROTTING PLANKS... A HORRIBLE SIGHT STOPS YOU SHORT! A GIANT SNAKE HAS SLITHERED IT'S LENGTH AROUND TWO CHESTS..

I'LL PIN IT WITH MY KNIFE WHILE YOU GRAB THOSE CHESTS, LAURIE!

SSSSSS!

OKAY, POP!

YOUR DAUGHTER SLIPS AND IS IMMEDIATELY BITTEN BY THE DEADLY SNAKE...

EEEYA!

AFTER YOU KILL THE SNAKE, YOU TRY TO REVIVE LAURIE... BUT IT'S TOO LATE! LAURIE IS DEAD! YOU FEEL THAT FATE MADE HER DIE SO YOU CAN GET THE PIRATE GOLD! IT WAS MEANT TO BE YOURS...

YOUR SISTER DIED FOR US, FRANK!

TOO BAD! NOW LET'S GET THE CHESTS OUTTA HERE!

THERE IS NO TIME FOR SENTIMENT OVER LAURIE! WHEN YOU AND FRANK LOOKED AT THE TREASURE, YOU BOTH GOT EXCITED, CAN'T WAIT TO GET IT OFF THE OLD WRECK...

I'M WEALTHY... FABULOUSLY!

EASY, NOW, FRANK!

AS YOUR SON ROWS, YOU WONDER HOW HE CAN MAKE THE BOAT GO SO FAST...

SOMETHING'S PULLING THIS BOAT!

YER TECHED, SON!

THE STUPID IDIOT! YOUR OWN SON, ROWS THE BOAT ONTO A SANDBANK! YOU BOTH STRAIN TO PUSH IT OFF...

YOU DOPE! COULDN'T YOU SEE WHERE YOU WERE ROWING?

I TELL YOU I DIDN'T DO IT! I'M AFRAID! SOMETHING PULLED US HERE!

AS YOU AND YOUR SON PUSH, YOU SEE IT! A GRUESOM SIGHT RISES FROM THE WATER...

OH, NO! YOU ARE DEAD! IT'S... IT'S...

YEH, ME... CORBY!

THIS APPARITION CHILLS YOUR SPINE! HE GRABS FRANK, PULLING HIM INTO THE WATER... YOU TRY TO STOP HIM, BUT YOU'RE HELPLESS...

HELP! FATHER!

STOP!

I'LL TAKE FRANK! THE CAPTAIN WILL GET YOU!

YOU WATCH, HELPLESSLY, AS YOUR SON GOES DOWN, DOWN TO HIS DEATH...

FRANK! I...I CAN'T HELP HIM... HE'S A GONER!

WITH FRANK OUT OF THE BOAT, IT GETS LIGHTER, AND YOU ARE ABLE TO ROW OFF THE SANDBANK...

I'M OFF THE SANDBANK! AT LEAST I'VE STILL GOT THE TREASURE! I'M RICH!

YOU CAN'T KEEP YOUR MIND OFF THE TREASURE! EVERY FEW MINUTES, YOU LIFT THE LID AND DIP YOUR ITCHING FINGERS INTO YOUR WEALTH...

THE SNAKE AND CORBY WERE ACCIDENTS! THERE AIN'T NO CAPTAIN! THEY CAN'T SCARE ME!

I'M RICH! RICH! HA! HA! HA!

WH...WHAT'S HAPPENING...THE BOAT'S TILTING! IT'S QUICKSAND!

A TERRIBLE GHOSTLY FIGURE APPEARS...OUT OF NOWHERE! ALL YOU CAN THINK OF IS THAT HE WILL SAVE YOU...

HELP ME, STRANGER! MY BOAT IS SINKING!

THE INJUNS THREW ME INTO THIS QUICKSAND!

THE ICY VOICE OF THE STRANGER FILLS YOU WITH FOREBODING! THEN, HE GRABS THE CHESTS...

STOP! THEY'RE MINE! WHO ARE YOU?

I'M CAPTAIN LANCE PETTIGREW! I CAN'T GET OUT OF THIS QUICKSAND, BUT YOU BROUGHT MY TREASURE! HERE TO ME!

WITH HANDS OF STEEL, THE PIRATE CAPTAIN PULLS YOU OUT OF THE BOAT... INTO THE QUICKSAND! THAT'S WHY THE BOAT IS SINKING...

YER A HAUNT! LET ME GO! YOU CAN HAVE THE TREASURE!

YOU MUST STAY WITH ME FOR-EVER!

SLOWLY, THE SUCKING QUICKSAND PULLS YOU DOWN. TO YOUR ANKLES, YOUR KNEES, YOUR CHEST... YOUR NECK... AND SOON, YOUR MOUTH WILL BE FILLED WITH IT...

NO! NO! HELP! SAVE ME! EEEHAA!

HA! HA! HA

THE END